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EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

STEPHEN L. D'ARCY
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Thursday, April 22, 2004
Date/Time of Occurrence Thursday, April 22, 2004
Nature of Event: Loomis Lions Club Donates to Sheriff's DARE Program
Location of Event: Loomis

Released by: Dena Erwin, Community Services Officer (530) 889-6922

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

The Placer County Sheriff Department's DARE Program has received a \$1,000 donation from the Loomis Lions Club.

DARE, Drug Abuse Resistance Education, is taught by sheriff's deputies to thousands of elementary and middle school students countywide each year. Sheriff Ed Bonner is a strong supporter of DARE, which educates kids on the dangers of drugs, alcohol and violence. Students are also taught the importance of high self-esteem and of making good choices in their lives.

Russ Kelley, president of the Loomis Lions, said members of his service group felt DARE was an important and worthwhile program to keep alive in the local schools.

"Supporting the DARE officers and their program ... is an investment in the future of our community," Kelley said. "DARE generates a positive connection with the deputies, as well as giving students information to make the right choices in their lives. The personal dedication of the sheriff's deputies to the students, schools and the community is greatly appreciated by the Loomis Lions and we are proud to support them."

Sheriff Ed Bonner was pleased with the group's generous donation.

"The Loomis Lions Club continues to demonstrate its commitment to the well-being of our community's children," the sheriff said.

Last year, the Auburn New Car Dealers' Association also made a generous donation to the Placer County Sheriff's DARE Program: A brand new Toyota RAV4. The car dealers are paying the lease on the vehicle for two years, which is being driven by Deputy Laurie Bettencourt. Sean Lehmann, the father of a student in Bettencourt's Franklin School DARE class, donated funds to have the RAV4 "shrink-wrapped" with modern graphics. Tony Palmer of Palmer Signs in Roseville donated the design and installation of the graphics.

Copies of this press release are available on the Placer County Sheriff's Department website at <http://www.placer.ca.gov/sheriff>

